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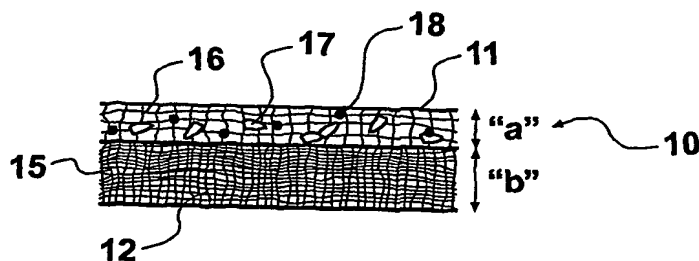
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(57) Abstract: A natural biodegradable felt suitable for growing seeds, seedlings or plants comprises a needlepunched felt mat formed of unscoured greasy wool, with or without additional nitrogenous material in the form of crushed or rolled animal excreta (dags). One such mat has a base which is sufficiently dense that it suppresses the growth of weeds through the mat, while being sufficiently loose in the upper surface to enable scattered seeds to be impregnated into the mat, and to grow through the mat when watered. The mat and seeds can

be shrink wrapped and rolled to provide an instant lawn. An alternative version uses a different density substrate for use in hydroponics, or for the delivery of growing plants such as lettuce or herbs to supermarkets.

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